## AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 30, 2016 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 10, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

## ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1887

## Introduced by Assembly Member Low (Coauthor: Assembly Member Ting)(Coauthors: Assembly Members Chiu and Ting)

February 11, 2016

An act to add Section 11139.8 to the Government Code, relating to discrimination.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1887, as amended, Low. State government: discrimination: travel. Existing law prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, national origin, ethnic group identification, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, color, genetic information, or disability under any state program or activity. Existing law provides for officers and employees of the state, when away from their headquarters for state business, to receive travel expenses.

This bill would prohibit a state agency and the Legislature from requiring any of its employees, officers, or members to travel to any state with a law in effect that sanctions or requires discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression, to, or approving a request for state-funded or state-sponsored travel to, any state with a law in effect that sanctions that, after June 26, 2015, has enacted a law that voids or repeals existing state or local protections against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression or has enacted a law that authorizes or requires

AB 1887 — 2 —

discrimination *against same-sex couples or their families or* on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression, *as specified*, subject to specified exceptions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 11139.8 is added to the Government 2 Code, to read:
  - 11139.8. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:
  - (1) California is a leader in protecting civil rights and preventing discrimination.
  - (2) California's robust nondiscrimination laws include protections on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression, among other characteristics.
  - (3) Religious freedom is a cornerstone of law and public policy in the United States, and the Legislature strongly supports and affirms this important freedom.
  - (4) The exercise of religious freedom should not be a justification for discrimination.
  - (5) California must take action to avoid supporting or financing discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people.
  - (6) It is the policy of the State of California to promote fairness and equality and to combat discrimination.
  - (b) An—A state agency, department, board, authority, or commission, including an agency, department, board, authority, or commission of the University of California, the Board of Regents of the University of California, or the California State University University, and the Legislature shall not do either of the following:
  - (1) Require any of its employees, officers, or members to travel to a state with a law in effect that sanctions that, after June 26, 2015, has enacted a law that voids or repeals existing state or local protections against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression or has enacted a law that authorizes or requires discrimination against same-sex couples or their families or on the basis of sexual orientation,

-3- AB 1887

gender identity, or gender-expression. expression, including any law that creates an exemption to antidiscrimination laws in order to permit discrimination against same-sex couples or their families or on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

- (2) Approve a request for state-funded or state-sponsored travel to a state—with a law in effect that sanctions that, after June 26, 2015, has enacted a law that voids or repeals existing state or local protections against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression, or has enacted a law that authorizes or requires discrimination against same-sex couples or their families or on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender—expression. expression, including any law that creates an exemption to antidiscrimination laws in order to permit discrimination against same-sex couples or their families or on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.
- (c) Subdivision (b) shall not apply to travel that is necessary for the enforcement of California law, to meet—prior contractual obligations, obligations incurred before January 1, 2017, or for the protection of public health, welfare, or safety.
- (d) The prohibition on state-funded travel described in this section shall continue while any law specified in subdivision (b) remains in effect.